

**Patent Claims**WHAT IS CLAIMED, IS

1. Method for changing the output delay of audio or video  
5 data encoding, wherein input time stamps are generated  
which become linked with audio or video data to be en-  
coded and are used to control the delay of the encoding  
process, wherein output time stamps are derived from the  
input time stamps by using a data delay constant and are  
10 assigned to the encoded data for indicating the output  
time, and wherein the encoded data with assigned output  
time stamps are buffered before output, **characterised** in  
that for a change of the output delay said data delay  
constant is changed, that already assigned output time  
15 stamps remain unchanged and that for data for which out-  
put time stamps are not already assigned, the output time  
stamps are calculated using the new data delay constant.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein during a gap in the  
20 sequence of output time stamps appearing at delay in-  
crease, stuffing data or zero data or even no data are  
sent.
3. Method according to claim 1, wherein for data with same  
25 or overlapping output time stamps appearing at delay re-  
duction, the later data indicating output time stamps  
that are already passed are discarded.
4. Method according to any of claims 1, wherein for delay  
30 reduction no further data are written into the output de-  
lay buffer beginning with the delay change request for a  
time duration corresponding to the difference between the  
old data delay constant and the new data delay constant,  
and wherein the new data delay constant is used for the  
35 calculation of the output time stamps for all following  
data.

- [illegible]